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distinguish between this species (*Musca domestica* Linnæus) and others, which under certain conditions may have appeared in the traps in considerable numbers, and while having no relevancy, materially affect the results. Such biological facts as are given are compiled without reference to sources, and some of the statements are obviously wrong. For instance, this—"The number of eggs laid by each female fly during the season is about 1,000" (p. 17). Presenting compiled matter in this manner can not be too strongly discouraged, as it forms a stumbling block to future investigators; for appearing to have originated with the author giving them and based on sufficient data, in reality they are statements made by others and should not be accepted unless the sources are given. Otherwise, science would be credulous.

A. ARSÈNE GIRAULT

URBANA, ILL.,  
September 23, 1908

#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES

*The American Naturalist* for September begins with an article by T. D. A. Cockerell on "Some Results of the Florissant Expedition of 1908." It notes that the best exhibit of Florissant fossils is now at the University of Colorado and incidentally describes two new species of fossil plants. Leroy D. Swingle describes the "Embryology of *Myosurus Minimus*" and this arouses the query should a specific name be capitalized even in the title of an article? J. A. Allen presents "Another Aspect of the Species Question" showing that the problems of nomenclature are somewhat different in zoology from what they are in botany and that botanists do not always describe their species so that they may be recognized from the descriptions alone. G. H. Parker considers "The Origin of Vertebrate Eyes" casting the weight of his opinion with those who consider that they arose from the internal central nervous system and not on the exterior.

*Bird-Lore* for September-October contains the following articles, mostly illustrated: "A Raven's Nest," by Francis H. Allen, "Hum-

mingbird Eccentricities," by Mary P. Allen; "A Mockingbird's June," by Albert V. Goodpasture; "The Growth of Young Black-billed Cuckoos," by A. A. Saunders; "Chestnut-sided Warbler," by Mary A. Dickerson, and the sixth paper on "The Migration of Flycatchers," by W. W. Cooke. The "Educational Leaflet," by Mabel Osgood Wright, is devoted to the kinglets. The report of the Audubon Societies notes the establishment of three new Bird Reservations, near Kev West, Fla., Klamath Lake, Oregon, and Lake Malheur, Oregon.

*The Museums Journal*, of Great Britain, for August contains a brief summary of the proceedings at the Ipswich conference, the program followed and lists of officers and members. The papers presented will appear in subsequent numbers. A brief article is devoted to "The British Museum (Natural History)," dealing with the question of the appointment of a keeper of zoology and a director, positions which have been vacant since the retirement of Sir E. Ray Lankester at the end of 1907.

*The American Museum Journal* for October under the caption "To the Bahamas for Coral" notices the successful expedition made for this purpose and gives some fine pictures of living corals. Additions are noted to the exhibition series of fossil horses and dinosaurs, to the collection of whales, series of heads of game animals, and the exhibit illustrating the motions of the planets.

*The Museum News* of the Brooklyn Institute notes important changes in the arrangement of the collections and numerous additions to the exhibition series. A novelty is the installation of a large group showing the home of the guacharo bird, so arranged that the visitor can illuminate the cave by pressing a button. Another important group is that of Steller's Sea Lion. An article on the botanical collections calls attention to some important material in the herbarium. The part devoted to the Children's Museum contains a list of material that may be loaned to schools.